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27 June 1956

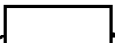
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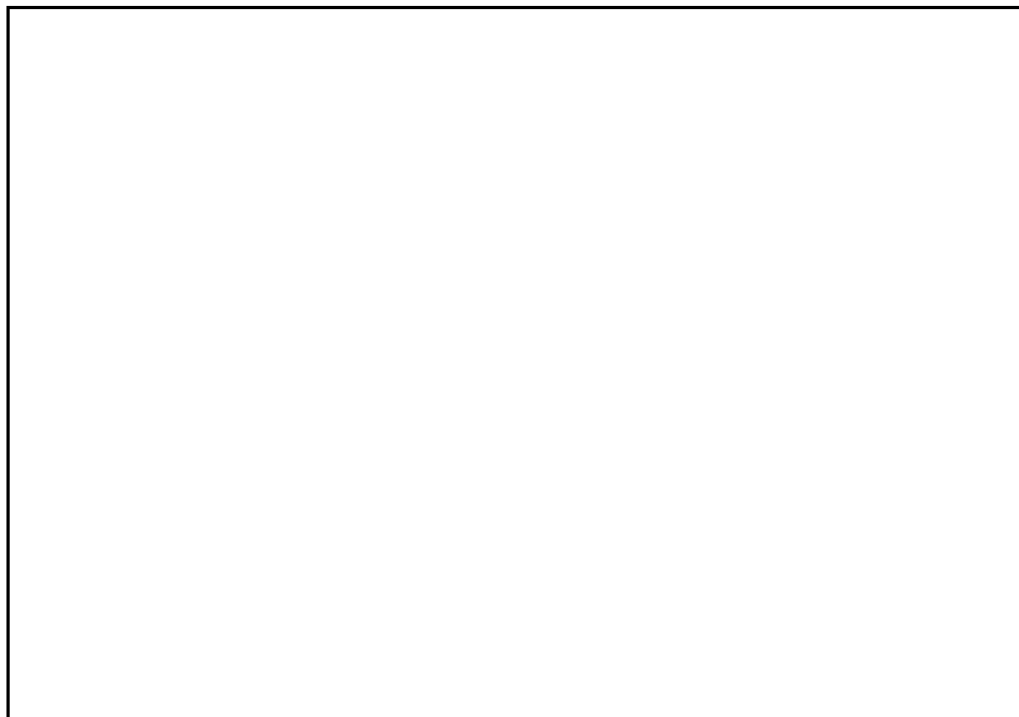
CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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State Department, NAVY reviews completed

TOP SECRET

25X1

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Approved For Release 2005/06/01 : CIA-RDP79T00975A002600250001-5

CONTENTS**1. SOVIET LEADERS EMBARRASSED BY KHRUSHCHEV'S
BEHAVIOR AT RECEPTION** [REDACTED]

25X1



25X1

**4. CHINESE NATIONALISTS PLAN TO GARRISON SPRATLY
ISLANDS** [REDACTED]

25X1



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6. JORDANIAN LOWER HOUSE DISSOLVED [REDACTED]

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION

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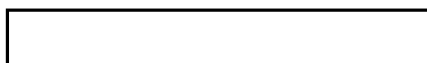


27 June 56

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 2

25X1A



**1. SOVIET LEADERS EMBARRASSED BY KHRUSHCHEV'S
BEHAVIOR AT RECEPTION**

25X1A

Ambassador Bohlen reports that Khrushchev's behavior during the reception given by Marshal Zhukov for the visiting aviation delegations was "a most unseemly performance and showed Khrushchev at his very worst."

Khrushchev succeeded in offending about every country represented. He dismissed the smaller powers as having no great importance in world affairs, implied that France was only by courtesy a great power, and made disparaging remarks about British aviation. He made no direct attacks on the United States, however, or said anything that would have required General Twining and Ambassador Bohlen to leave the reception.

Bohlen noted the embarrassment and even disgust of other members of the party presidium which they did not attempt to conceal in front of foreigners. Bulganin, who was extremely intoxicated, and Mikoyan attempted to offset Khrushchev's remarks with friendly toasts and conversation. Kaganovich said to Molotov that Khrushchev's "remarks are out of place and unnecessary." (

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4. CHINESE NATIONALISTS PLAN TO GARRISON SPRATLY ISLANDS

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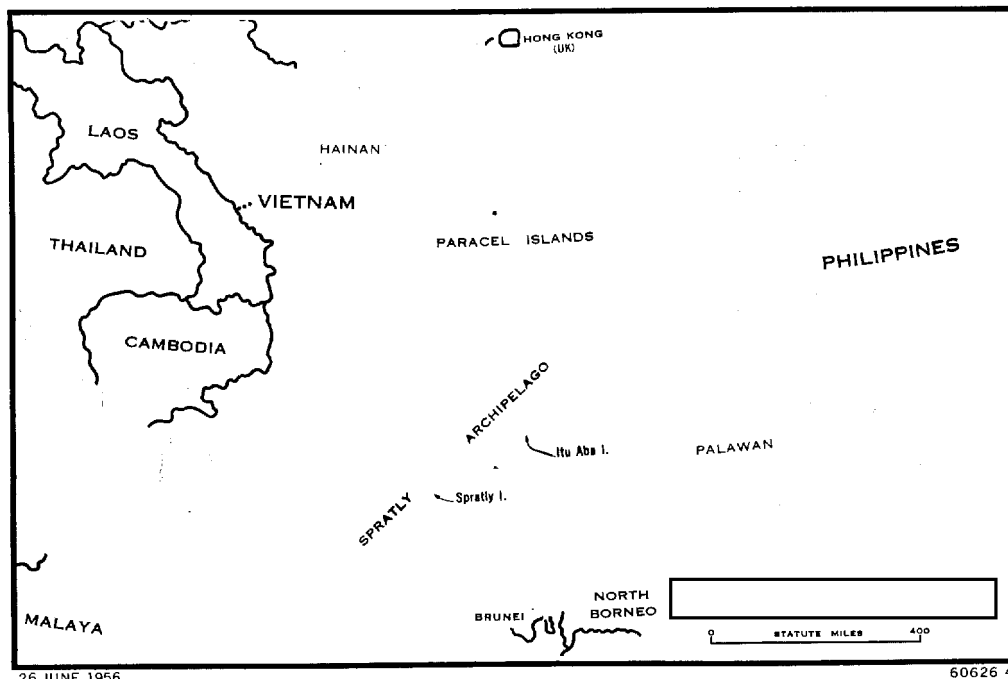
A garrison force of from 50 to 100 Chinese Nationalist marines is being readied to sail to the Spratly Islands by 26 June,

25X1

This force is to be relieved by another in two to three months.

Comment.

The Spratly Islands were recently the subject of discussion between the Philippine and Chinese Nationalist governments following a claim



25X1

27 June 56

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 6

25X1A

to some of them made by a private Philippine citizen who has announced he has placed men on one of the islands. The Nationalist government, claiming the islands have been Chinese for 300 years, sent two destroyer escorts on 2 June to reconnoiter the islands. If Filipinos are on the islands, a clash could occur when the Nationalists land their garrison force.

The Chinese Communists have claimed the Spratlys, but Peiping will probably not seek to prevent the Nationalist landings. France and South Vietnam also claim the islands, and President Diem may be expected to protest strongly against the Nationalist action.

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25X1A

6. JORDANIAN LOWER HOUSE DISSOLVED

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The dissolution of the lower house of the Jordan parliament on 26 June by royal decree must be followed, under the constitution, by the appointment of a caretaker cabinet within a week and new elections within four months. As elections draw near, occasions for demonstrations and disorders will arise, and the country could be brought close to civil war if factions in the Arab Legion decide to intervene.

Jordan's relations with the other Arab states will probably be the basic issue in the new elections. Egyptian agents and Saudi money will support extreme nationalist candidates.

The appointment of a caretaker cabinet is a blow to Iraqi hopes for closer relations with Jordan, since such a cabinet almost certainly will not feel able to approve the military co-operation agreement made by Arab Legion chief of staff Nuwar during his recent visit to Baghdad.

25X1A

27 June 56

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 9

25X1A

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/06/01 : CIA-RDP79T00975A002600250001-5

Approved For Release 2005/06/01 : CIA-RDP79T00975A002600250001-5

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 26 June)

The Israeli press is playing up, as a provocative action by Jordan, the incident on the Jordanian border on 24 June, in which two Israelis were killed. The press comments seem to have a sharper tone than those used in recent weeks, and may reflect the tougher attitude of the Israeli government since the resignation of Moshe Sharett, former foreign minister.

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